GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2419
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
SCARCITY OF WATER FOR IRRIGATION
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scarcity of water for irrigation in various States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard as on date, State-wise;

(c) the funds allocated for the said purpose during 2006-07 and 2007-08; and

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to deal with the problem of scarcity of water for irrigation in the country during the coming years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The average annual water availability in the country has been assessed as 1869 billion cubic metre (BCM). It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM.

The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan in its report has made an assessment for water requirement for various sectors. As per the report, 629 BCM of water is being utilized for diverse purposes including irrigation for which 524 BCM of water is being utilized. The estimated total water requirements for the years 2010, 2025 and 2050 are 710 BCM, 843 BCM and 1180 BCM and that for irrigation are 557 BCM, 611 BCM and 807 BCM respectively. The availability of water in the country as a whole is considered adequate to meet the present level of demand of water for irrigation.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.